Procurement of know-how from Israel

1396. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to procure the latest know-how from Israel for making Indian desert green as has been done in that country;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has been generating and promoting technologies for improving the arid lands of the country. They have developed technologies for stabilizing sand-dunes and improving the productivity of arid pastures, improvement of silviculture, Silvipasture and arid horticulture for fodder production and supplementing income of farmers:

Calamity Relief Fund

1397. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Calamity Relief Fund has been exhausted by Tamil Nadu in providing immediate relief to the victims of floods and cyclone ; and

(b) whether Government propose to take up with the World Bank the project prepared by the Government of Tamil Nadu to undertake major reconstruction works in flood affected areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) According to information received from the Government of Tamil Nadu an amount of Rs. 28.63 crores has been spent from the Calamity Relief Fund upto December, 1991 out of a total annual allocation of Rs. 39.00 crores.

(b) The Government of India has not received any project from the Govt. of Tamil Nadu for posing to World Bank for assistance for reconstruction works in flood affected areas.

Mechanised fishing vessels in coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh

1398. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mechanised fishing vessels operating in the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh covering more than 750 Kms;

(b) the number of fishermen, depending upon fishing with the help of catamarams, actually affected ;

(c) The relief measures undertaken to protect such displaced fishermen from the onslaught of the mechanised fishing vessels ; and

(d) whether Government propose to appoint a Parliametary Committee to study the living conditons of the fishermen living on the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh and suggest measures to improve their living conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) There are about 2200 mechanised fishing vessels operating in the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (d) The Central Government have not received any information about any catamaran fishermen having been displaced from his profession because of mechanised fishing vessels, though there are reports about disputes between the two sectors. The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, are yet to enact the Marine Fishing Regulation Act as advised by the Central Government in 1978 to protect the interest of traditional fishermen, although it had issued a Notification in this regard.

The Central Govt. have taken a number of steps ito improve the socio-economic conditions of small fishermen by motorising traditional craft, introducing beach landing craft, establishing model fishermen villages, saving-cum-relief :chemes etc. as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. There is no proposal to appoint a Parliamentary Committee to study the living conditions of the fishermen living in the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh.

Poultry Farming

1399. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to accord status of Agriculture for poultry